

FX: 616-954-0290

September 16, 2016

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee:

CycleSafe, Inc., a Michigan corporation that manufactures bicycle parking products made in Michigan, strongly supports the bicycle safety package before this committee. I hope to urge you to vote in support of SB1029.SB1030, SB1076, SB1077 and SB1078. Together these bills protect vulnerable roadway users, create clear standards for how to safely pass a bicyclist and improve driver's education in Michigan to put emphasize bicycle safety and encourage healthy, active communities.

CycleSafe has been manufacturing bicycle parking products in the State of Michigan for over 35 years. We know safe roads are essential to promoting community cycling and other opportunities for pedestrians and wheelchair mobility.

Michigan needs to be more progressive in promoting active transportation by creating safe roads for all. Improving driver's education is essential to include rights of all users of the roadways. A five foot passing standard is the minimum distance to ensure safe passing and prevent a driver from striking a cyclist. Michigan is one of only eleven states without a law specifically requiring motorists to pass bicyclists safely.

Complete Streets ordinances have initiated movements towards more inclusive roadways, of which Michigan has been implementing. Now is the time to take our state a step further to ensure the safety of all roadway users.

Vulnerable roadway users need to have enforceable laws that protect the rights to the road, such as the protection offered to construction workers, children or workers in school zones, or farm vehicles that use our roads and have rights. Michigan needs to have the legal backing to protect the rights of all roadway users.

All of us at CycleSafe, Inc. hope that we can count on you to support these bills to promote active, healthy communities that are safe for all users. We are encouraged by the wide public and bipartisan support among legislature. Thank you for your leadership in support of these bills to ensure the safety of all roadway users.

Sincerely,

Susan Hartger Vice President CycleSafe, Inc.